

People

No fanfare for Jackson's 30th

LEEDS, England (AP) — Pop singer Michael Jackson

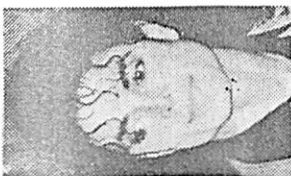
was given an ovation by 90,000 people who showed up at a park in this northern England industrial city for a concert on his 30th birthday.

The crowd sang "Happy birthday" Monday night and Jackson replied simply, "Thank you."

No fanfare, no gifts and no birthday cake, in keeping with remnants of Jackson's earlier Jehovah's Witnesses religious beliefs, tour spokesman Bob Jones said.

Police described the event as "very successful" from their point of view, with only 96 arrests, most for drunkenness, damage and drug offenses.

All 90,000 tickets for the concert were sold months ago and the most serious injury reported was a broken leg suffered by a man as ticketless fans tried to enter the arena.



Michael Jackson

Mayor recalls history of Swiss Days events

By SONNI SCHWINN
Wasatch County Correspondent
MIDWAY, Wasatch County — Midway City's annual Swiss Days, this Friday and Saturday is always a fun colorful cultural experience.

It has grown from a one-day local gathering 40 years ago to become an event that draws crowds from across the state. "Total community effort" is at the core of Swiss Days success, says Mayor Gene Probst. He has never missed a Swiss Days except one year when he was in Hawaii.

He doesn't claim to be a historian and he isn't absolutely sure of dates. As he relates his eye witness account of Swiss Days history he chuckles a little here and there obviously enjoying fond memories.

As Probst tells the story, "farmers gathered in the town square to sell corn, potatoes, pumpkins, anything they had in their gardens," at the first harvest festival in 1946 or 1947. It was also the first project sponsored by the Midway Boosters Club. The only cooked food available was Swiss cookies. Games were set up so children could chase chickens and greased pigs and climb a greased pole. "They grease a pole and put a \$10 bill on top and let the kids climb it. I remember they had the teams and the wagons. The idea was to harness your team, hook them up to the

wagon and race across the square. There was no lawn there then ... no beautiful green pine trees. It was just kind of an old dry weed patch."

A few years later the children's rodeo was begun.

"They would pull cars in and make an arena out of cars. They'd bring in these Holstein calves and the kids would ride them."

"And there was always a little league ball game and an old timers ball game ... I don't know when the parade started. There's pretty much always been a parade."

The Swiss Days idea was "somebody's brainstorm ... the rodeo thing abruptly changed and they went to this Swiss Market thing and it's just grown from there ... now we've got a tiger by the tail."

A printed program documents that the first Swiss Days was in 1953. That's when the program was added with comedy and music. According to the program there were flowers, art, handicrafts, foods, agriculture, rodeo, dance, Swiss market, concessions, a pet show, children's games and cannonading, with 4-H and Daughters of the Utah Pioneers participating.

Cannonading was "where, early in the morning they'd get up and blow dynamite off to wake everybody up. That

was about 6 o'clock. Then the marshal band would ride up and down the streets with the fife and the drum and the flute serenading everybody.

"And the brass band would play on the square all day ... my dad (Karl) had the old town brass band for years and years. Clarence Probst, (a cousin), took the chorus and the musical at night. He's still alive. He's 96."

Although Swiss Days is a secular community activity, "you've got to give the (LDS) Church some credit, too. I think I could call for a thousand people and wouldn't get any but if the bishop does it's a different story. That's really been the success of the thing ... the wards have been involved in the food booths."

Last year, as Probst was doing his part to help renovate the town hall before Swiss Days he shook his head in amazement at all the Midway citizens donating their time to the project. When asked how such a united community spirit came about he said he didn't know and couldn't figure it out. All he could say was that the Midway Boosters did it.

The boosters use the proceeds from Swiss Days for community projects, like the Glockenspiel that was installed in the town hall last year and the signs they put up this year to welcome visitors.



Brian Tregaskis Photo

Dr. Robert Fuller stands on a balcony at Swiss Oaks, overlooking Heber Valley.

MIDWAY

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Family gathers for star's 80th

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fred MacMurray will be surrounded by the women of his life at a small gathering to celebrate his 80th birthday today.

On hand will be his wife of 34 years, former actress June Haver,



Fred MacMurray

the couple's twin 32-year-old daughters, Kate and Laurie, and his two dogs, also females.

"He's the father of 'My Three Sons' but he's surrounded by females," his wife said Monday during a telephone interview. MacMurray, who is recovering from a stroke, was asleep and couldn't come to the phone, she said.

MacMurray has been encouraged by an outpouring of get-well cards, letters and flowers, she said.

"If life begins at 40, he's only 40," she said. "He's very happy to be 80 years

chickens and greased pigs and climb a greased pole. "They grease a pole and put a \$10 bill on top and let the kids climb it. I remember they had the teams and the wagons. The idea was to harness your team, hook them up to the

sions, a pet show, children's games and cannonading, with 4-H and Daughters of the Utah Pioneers participating.

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Brian Tregaskis Photo

Dr. Robert Fuller stands on a balcony at Swiss Oaks, overlooking Heber Valley.

MIDWAY:

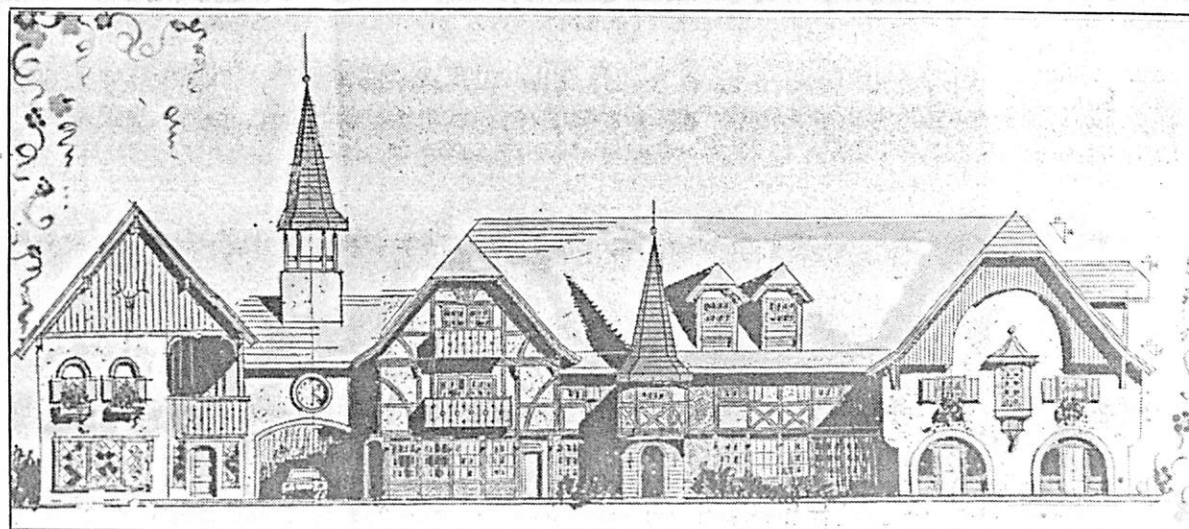
(Continued from Page 1)

was to build a Swiss Village, but he said there was no city master plan in place and there was no access to water in the place Fuller wanted to build.

In 1975, Fuller, now in dental school, approached the city again. He wanted to build his village on the 24 acres his family still owned on a mountain overlooking The Homestead. The city now had a master plan conducive to such a project, but part of the project required that Midway annex county land. But Fuller said the county wasn't interested.

In 1983 Fuller's dream hadn't faded. He said Mayor Probst came to him and asked if he was still interested in developing his land. Midway had caught the vision and this little valley hamlet was taking on a Swiss look.

The result today is Swiss Oaks, townhouses that bear Swiss flags and the unique paintings of Gerhard Lipp, originally of Austria. The first three phases of the project have been completed and sales of the 2- 3- and 4-bedroom townhouses, with stunning val-



Brian Tregaskis Photo

The Probst Hotel, proposed for Midway's Main Street, would feature specialty shops and further give Midway its Swiss identity.

ley and golf course views, have been brisk. But it's only part of the story.

Midway's town center has a Swiss look. Das Burgermeister Haus, a new Swiss cafe owned by the mayor opened this week. A hotel planned by the mayor, complete with specialty shops, is designed and ready for construction along center street. Probst said "There are some things in the

fire so we're just waiting to see what happens."

Among them are the new golf course being constructed at The Homestead, now owned by Jerry Saunders. Saunders has refurbished the hotel and turned it into a "must stay" for visitors to the valley.

Dorothy Hamill, Olympic ice skating champion, is building a health spa and fitness center

at The Homestead, part of several projects she's developing for the valley.

Hamill is trying to bring a \$6 million ice skating center to Midway. The Midway City Council is behind the plan and applied for Urban Development Action Grants to secure funds for the arena. It would include the newest training facilities, Olympic-sized ice, a pool and other amenities. With

the U.S. Ski Team based in nearby Park City, the vision is to make the area a winter training ground for the best athletes in the country.

Probst said the city applied for the grants last year but missed the deadline for submitting the proposal. The city will try again this fall.

Completion of the Jordanelles Dam will bring a reservoir 2½ times the size of Deer Creek just up the road from Midway. It promises to bring literally thousands of tourists to the area.

"We want it to be a major tourist place. We love people to come here, leave their money and go away," said Fuller.

The proposed ski interconnector, linking the seven ski resorts along the Wasatch Front, could make its base, or at least have access through Midway. It would bring skiers from Utah County and further south through Provo Canyon to get to Utah's best skiing.

For now all is quiet. The cows rest near the hills and the 3,000 or so who live in and around Midway wait. But change is near for Utah's sleeping valley. It may soon awaken.

Editorial

Swiss Days, An Example of Community Pride

7 Sep 1988

Last weekend's Midway Swiss Days was, as usual, fun, crowded, and profitable.

The annual event is also a phenomenon. It is an example of community pride and what can be done when citizens work together.

Mayor Gene Probst recently gave credit to LDS Church leadership for contributing to the ongoing success of Swiss Days. However, articles in magazines and newspapers report that other communities are succeeding in developing tourism and celebrations, and unitedly resolving community problems, without mentioning the LDS or any other church.

Swiss Days and the other reported successes share two common denominators: a person or organization has to take the lead, and there have to be some dedicated, hardworking followers.

Mayor Probst also said members of the LDS church in Midway are more willing to do work that is directed by the church than they would be if he asked them. We don't challenge that statement, but we have noted that several non-LDS people have also enthusiastically contributed to the success of Swiss Days.

People talk about the importance of pride in the community, and there is no doubt that the citizens of Midway take pride in their community. But if they didn't work so hard, they would have nothing to take pride in. It appears their pride is the result rather than the cause of their hard work.

Midway has a tight budget, unemployment, low-income families, and all the other problems communities around the nation are facing. But, while some of us sit around, sucking our thumbs, saying, "Ain't it all awful?," people in Midway are planting tulips to make their town beautiful, bargaining for Christmas decorations, and planning the next Swiss Days a year in advance.

There's probably no way of knowing how many Midway residents don't participate in all the activity, but there are probably a lot of them. That proves one more thing: Community success doesn't require participation by everybody.

Somebody has said you will become the posture you assume. For instance, if you are depressed, but you stand up straight, smile, and walk as though life is being good to you, the depression will soon leave, even if your problems don't. On the other hand, if you let your shoulders droop, hang your head and scowl, you will soon feel down and out, looking for reasons to justify it.

Maybe the rest of us gripe too much about our hard times and our depressed economy, wondering how to stir up a little community pride. Maybe the answer is to stop griping and assume the posture of success. Maybe success will follow.

Some people use the expression "having pride," as though it were something one inherits. Pride isn't something one "has;" it's something one "takes." A lot of people in Midway "take" pride in their community, which involves a lot of hard work and determination.

We can only "have" pride in our schools, homes, streets, government decisions, activities, families, churches and selves, if we "take" the time and effort required, to make them into something we can be proud of.

Our references to Midway are bound to ruffle some feathers. Midway is notably territorial and slow to cooperate in countywide efforts. We don't blame them. They probably don't want what they have worked so hard to attain to be diluted by the "poor me", "let the other guy do it" attitudes of some of the rest of us.

One added note about assuming the "posture" of success. Until it takes hold, it is no more than an act. But if we "act" as though we're a successful, happy country, not only would tourism increase, outsiders might be more inclined to bring businesses in. That would be real success!



Midway Swiss Days '88

7 Sep 1988

More people attended last week-end's Midway Swiss Days celebration than ever before, according to Midway Boosters President Connie Tatton.

"I feel like it was the smoothest Swiss Days. We received exceptional commitment and cooperation from the citizens of Midway. It was a real community effort," she reported. "We had exceptional hourly entertainment this year."

There were 196 booths offering food, crafts and other items for sale. This was forty more booths than the celebration had last year.

The parade was presented both Friday and Saturday had approximately 60 entries both times.

It was noted by Swiss Days officials that this years attendance was up almost twenty percent over the celebration las year. The increase was attributed to better response from people outside the valley.

Midway Swiss Days is becoming one of the larger celebrations that is held in the state.

Because of the size of Swiss Days and the number of people that it attracts there is a growing problem of parking for all of the visitors. However this problem, like others in the past, will be solved.



Swiss Handbell Ringers To Form a Second Group



The Swiss Handbell Ringers, of Midway, have been a valuable cultural addition to our County since their inception in July 1988. The Ringers performed only three times that year, including Swiss Days and Swiss Christmas. In 1989, they performed 14 times in Wasatch, Utah, and Salt Lake Counties. This year, they expect to double or triple that number, including concerts at the Provo Tabernacle and Temple Square.

at 8 a.m. at the Midway Town Hall. They will practice every Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for an hour. The second director, LaRee Hunt, would like to invite any interested person, male or female, young or old, to either come or contact her for more information. If anyone had thought that they might want to be a part of this group but were hesitant to make the time commitment or because of their musical skills, this would be a per-

Swiss Handbell Ringers To Give Free Christmas Concert

^{27 Nov 1989}
The Swiss Handbell Ringers, of Midway, will be sharing the joy of the Christmas season when they give a free concert on Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Midway Town Hall. This concert is in appreciation for all those residents who were so generous in contributing funds to purchase the bells.

There are 64 bells in the 5 octave concert set, which are much like the keys of a piano with black and white handles, sharps, and flats. Each bell's handle is engraved with the donor's name or designee. The \$10,000 needed for the total package of tables, pads, gloves, cases, music, etc. was raised within 10 weeks last spring by Fran Anderson and his committee, which is just another indication of the cultural acuity of the community and valley as a whole.

The Swiss Handbell Ringers are a dedicated group of people who practice three times a week in the early morning. They are continually increasing their repertoire and are

performing more often in and out of the valley as their reputation grows. Christmas music is especially pleasing on the bells and should be heard by all.

Everyone is invited to attend this

free concert to take joy not only in the Christmas season but also for the spirit of civic pride, volunteerism and high ideals that pervades throughout our valley. The audience is invited to take a closer look at the bells after the concert.



Swiss Handbell Ringers To Hold Free Concert

Dec 1989
The Swiss Handbell Ringers, of Midway, will be giving a free Christmas Concert in the Midway Town Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. They will be playing a melody of favorite Christmas songs such as *Silent Night*, *The First Noel*, *Oh Little Town of Bethlehem*, some fun songs for the kids, and a few signature songs of the Handbell Ringers.

Their most difficult piece will be *Parade of The Wooden Soldiers*. There will be an audience sing-along on some pieces. Residents and visitors throughout the Valley are invited to attend this free concert.